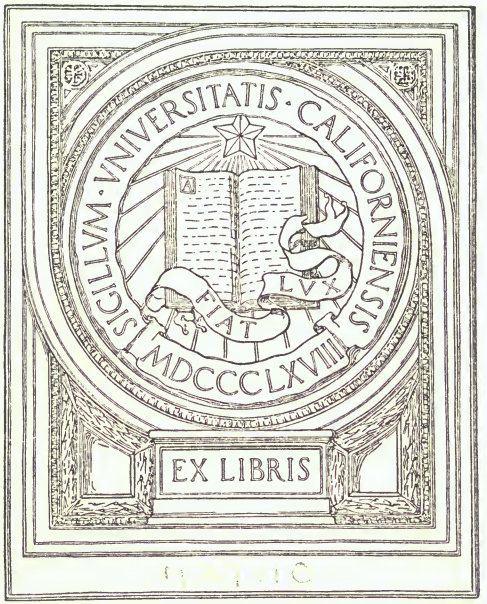
The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

CAROLYN WELLS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The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

by CAROLYN WELLS

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY
MAY WILSON PRESTON

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The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

Now the new Rubber rousing
[new Desires,
The Thoughtful Soul to Doub=
[ling Hearts aspires.
=When the Red Hand of
[Dummy is laid down,
And even Hope of the Odd
[Trick expires!

Mary Wilson Preston 09.

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

Ah, make the Most of what
[We yet may Take,
Before we lose the Lead, and
[let Them make
=Trick after Trick! While
[we throw down High Cards,
Sans Lead, sans Score, sans
[Honor, and sans Stake!

Mary Wilson Preston 89.

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

A Book of Bridge Rules un=
[derneath the Bough,
A Score Card, Two new Packs
[of Cards, and Thou
=With Two Good Players sit=
[ting opposite,
Oh, Wilderness were Paradise
[enow!

TOWELL
ON
INFERENCE
May Wilson Preston 09.

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

The Card no Question makes
[of ayes or noes,
But High or Low, as suits the
[Player shows;
=But he who Stands Beside
[you, Looking On,—
He knows about it all! He
[Knows!! ***He Knows!!!***

Mary Wilson Preston 09.

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

I sometimes think there's never
[such Tirade
As where some Bridge Game
[has been badly Played.
=When Some One thinks you
[should have made no Trump,
And you have thriftily declared
[a Spade!

Mayblossom Ruston

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

Myself, when Young, did ea=
[gerly Frequent
Bridge Tournaments, and heard
[Great Argument
=About this Point and That.
[Yet, after all,
Came out no Better Player
[than I went.

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Mary Wilson Prentiss 09.

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

For I remember stopping by
[the Way
To watch Four Celebrated
[Champions play.
=They Differed on the Dis=
[card, Make, and Lead.
Whatever One Said, — Said
[The Others, "Nay!"

Mary Wilcox Burton '09.

Why, if a Soul can fling the
[Rules aside,
And let his Card-Sense be his
[Only Guide,
—Were't not a Shame, were't
[not a Shame for him
By Street and Elwell tamely
[to abide?

TEST HANDS SMELL
BRIDGE
WHIST
May Wilson Preston 09.

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

And if the Card you hope=
[fully Finesse
Capture the Trick,—your Part=
[ner Smiles! Oh yes!
=And you smile Broadly! But,
[if it be Caught
By the Fourth Hand,—your
[Smiles are somewhat Less!

May Wilson Preston 09.

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

But if in Vain down on the
[Stubborn Score
You gaze; and make it No
[Trumps, just once more,—
=With Strength in Every Suit,
[but with No Ace,—
How then,—when Dummy
[calmly Lays down Four!

May Wilson Preston 09

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

To Them the Heart Convention
[did I show,
And with Mine Own Hand
[tried to make it go.
=But this is all the Wisdom
[that I reaped,—
"With more than Three Hearts,
[always lead the Low!"

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

For, Trump or No-Trump,
[though with all the Rules,
Of different Masters and of
[different Schools,
=I've played with Players of
[all Sorts,—but I
Have never beaten anything,—
[but Fools!

TABLES
50 TO 75
TABLE
44

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

Indeed, indeed—to Quit It oft
[Before
I swore,—but did I mean it
[when I swore?
=And then,—and then came
[Three, and, Cards in Hand,
I Joined them, and they made
[me keep the Score!

Mary Wilson Preston 09.

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

Alas, how Subtle Bridge al=
[luring Woos!
And robs me of my Nightly
[Beauty=Snooze.
=I often Wonder what Bridge
[Players gain
One=half so Precious as the
[Sleep they Lose.

Mary Wilson Preston 09

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

Oh, Threats of Loss, and
[Hopes of Golden Store,
One thing in Bridge is Cer=
[tain,—'tis not Lore!
=One thing is Certain, and
[the Rest is Chance:
The Hand that holds the
[Cards will win the Score!

♡

May Wilson Preston 09.

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

Some for the Gain of Penny
[Points, and Some
Sigh for the Lovely Prizes yet
[to come.
=Oh, take the Prize and let
[the Pennies go,
Nor heed the winning of a
[Paltry Sum.

May Wilson Preston '07

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

When You and I our Last
[Bridge Game have played,
The Games will go right on
[by Those who've Stayed,
=Who of Our Coming and
[Departure heed
As the Heart Ace should heed
[a little Spade.

The Rubáiyát of BRIDGE

We are no other than a Mov=
[ing Row
Of Magic Dummy Hands that
[Come and Go.
=Played to the Last Trump
[by the Hand of Fate,
By whom our Hearts are
[Shuffled To and Fro.

Maxfield Parrish 09.

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